GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5120
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2005
KU BAND SATELLITE DISTRIBUTION PROJECT
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Ponnuswamy Shri E.

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved KU Band Satellite Distribution Project for covering 100 per cent T.V. watching population;

(b) if so, the cost of the project and the areas specified thereunder;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose;

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed and made operational; and

(e) the manner in which the Government plans to bear the annual recurring expenditure?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (d) : Prasar Bharati has informed that the Ku band project of Doordarshan with an approved cost of Rs. 164.35 crores (including cost of earth station, dish receive units and satellite transponder charges) came into operation from 16.12.2004 with the launch of DD Direct+, Doordarshan`s free-to-air DTH service with a bouquet of 33 TV and 12 Radio channels. This service is available for reception in the entire country except A&N Islands.

(e) : The expenditure is being met out of Government grant and Prasar Bharati`s internal resources.